

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are all the claims pending in the application. By this Amendment, new claims 14-15 are added.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Nagaoka *et al.* (JP 09-006283; hereinafter “Nagaoka”).¹ Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagaoka. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagaoka and further in view of Anderson *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,369,706; hereinafter “Anderson”). Claims 7-9, 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant’s Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter “AAPA”) in view of Nagaoka. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over AAPA in view of Nagaoka and further in view of Anderson. Claims 4 and 10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant submits the arguments below in traversal of the claim rejections.

Rejection of Claims 1-3 under § 102(b) by Nagaoka

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable because Nagaoka fails to disclose the heating portion as claimed. Claim 1 recites, in combination with other elements:

a heating portion disposed at a rear of the rear substrate to heat the rear substrate and the front substrate

¹ A computer-generated translation of the Detailed Description of Nagaoka is attached.

In the Office Action, the Examiner points out the heating apparatus 9 mentioned in paragraphs 0142 and 0232-0233 of Nagaoka as corresponding to the claimed heating portion. Nagaoka, however, fails to disclose that the heating apparatus 9 is disposed at a rear of the rear substrate. Moreover, there is nothing in Nagaoka which suggests that the heating apparatus 9 would necessarily be disposed at a rear of the rear substrate. For example, the heating apparatus 9 of Nagaoka may be disposed around the periphery of the PDP 1. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 2-3, which depend from claim 1, are allowable for at least the reasons submitted for claim 1.

Rejection of Claim 6 under § 103(a) over Nagaoka

Claim 6, which ultimately depends from claim 1, is allowable for at least the reasons submitted for claim 1.

Rejection of Claim 5 under § 103(a) over Nagaoka and further in view of Anderson

Claim 5 is allowable because the combination of Nagaoka and Anderson fails to teach, suggest, or provide motivation for a heat generating coil. While Anderson does disclose a “warming device 602, such as a heating coil,” col. 8, lines 3-4, there is nothing to suggest that the warming device 602 would be disposed at a rear of a rear substrate. To the contrary, the warming device 602 in Anderson is shown to be disposed around the periphery of the LCD screen 606. See Fig. 6. Therefore, the combination of Nagaoka and Anderson cannot possibly teach, suggest or provide motivation for the claimed heat generating coil as recited in the claim, but rather teaches away from the invention as claimed.

Rejection of Claims 7-9, 11 and 13 under § 103(a) over AAPA in view of Nagaoka

For reasons similar to those submitted for claim 1, claim 7 is allowable because Nagaoka fails to teach, suggest or provide motivation for the heating apparatus 9 being disposed at a rear of the rear substrate. Because the heating apparatus 9 could be disposed around the periphery of the PDP 1, there is nothing to suggest that the heating apparatus 9 would necessarily be disposed at a rear of a rear substrate, as claimed.

Claims 8, 9, 11 and 13, which depend from claim 7, are allowable for at least the reasons submitted for claim 7.

Rejection of Claim 12 under § 103(a) over AAPA in view of Nagaoka and further in view of Anderson

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 12 is allowable. As previously noted in the arguments for claim 5, the combination of Nagaoka and Anderson fails to teach, suggest, or provide motivation for a heat generating coil. Not only is there nothing to suggest that the warming device 602 would be disposed at a rear of a rear substrate, the warming device 602 in Anderson is disposed around the periphery of the LCD screen 606, to teach away from the invention as claimed.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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